



## Memorandum

**TO:** NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES  
AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**FROM:** Norberto Dueñas

**SUBJECT:** SCHOOLS/CITY COLLABORATIVE  
UPDATE

**DATE:** January 25, 2010

Approved

Date

2/4/10

The following key activities are to be highlighted in this report:

***Center for Cities & Schools (South Bay Sub-Regional Roundtable)*** – Franklin McKinley School District Superintendent Dr. John Porter and Deputy City Manager Norberto Duenas were invited by the Association of Bay Area Government (ABAG) and Center for Cities & Schools University of Berkeley to jointly speak at the South Bay Sub-Regional Roundtable. The theme of the event was “Putting Schools on the Map: Building Strong Communities & Schools.” The invitation served as a unique opportunity for the City of San José to present and discuss the Schools-City Collaborative. The presentation highlighted the recently revised Schools City Collaborative Policy approved by the City Council in April 2009; the Mayor’s Gang Prevention Taskforce/Safe Campus Initiative focused on a coordinated community response for gang prevention and intervention occurring on or around our local schools; and the coordination efforts for the school impact and needs assessment for the Envision San José 2040 General Plan Update. Our model and the joint presentation were shared with participants from various agencies within the Bay Area nine regions.

***Eastside Union High School District (ESUHD): Gang Awareness Training*** – The Safe School Campus Initiative (SSCI) Program is a middle/high school crisis response protocol-based program aimed at responding to and de-escalating acts of school violence. In February, the SSCI staff and the ESUHD Superintendent’s Office will be partnering to make available gang awareness training to each of the ESUHD campuses. In addition, special trainings will be available to staff, teachers and administrators. For more information about the schedule of these trainings, please contact Recreation Superintendent Mario Maciel at (408) 277-2718.

***Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) Alternative School Department Partnership*** – The Alternative Schools Department provides educational programs (grades 7-12) for students who are under court supervision, or who are not attending a regular district school. Educational programs are available for youth who are status-offenders, truant, beyond parent control, or youth who may have committed serious crimes, but have not been fully adjudicated and have been placed under probation jurisdiction. These programs may also serve as a transition from institutions to district schools for students who have been expelled or referred



from the district's Student Attendance Review Board or other student study teams. In coordination with the Mayor's Office, the Safe School Campus Initiative (SSCI) Program has been working with the Santa Clara County Office of Education Alternative School Department's Deputy Superintendent Cary Dritz to strategically develop a collaborative work plan that equally links and connects each of its campuses to the Safe School Campus Initiative Program resources and services. In addition, Deputy Superintendent Cary Dritz will be the new SCCOE representative on the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force Policy Team. For more details on the status of this partnership, please contact Recreation Superintendent Mario Maciel at (408) 277-2718.

***Envision San José 2040 General Plan Update*** – On December 9, City officials and staff met with school superintendents at the quarterly Schools-City Collaborative meeting. Among the topics discussed, City staff invited the school districts to participate in the Envision 2040 General Plan Update by assisting with the calculations of student generation/enrollment associated with each of the proposed growth scenarios for the update. Staff provided links to key web resources to facilitate these calculations, including Google Earth maps that show potential housing growth locations within each school district. The school enrollment estimates will be used in the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the General Plan Update, and may also be used by the community, Task Force, and Council in their selection of a preferred growth scenario for the new General Plan. In addition, the City and superintendents discussed related future collaborations, such as working together on new school policies for the General Plan. A follow-up meeting is being coordinated (with school district superintendent participation) in early February to discuss draft education goals, policies, and implementation actions. For more questions on the Envision San José 2040 General Plan Update, please contact Project Manager John Baty at (408) 535-7894.

***Franklin McKinley Children Zone Project*** – In December, it was reported that the Franklin McKinley School District had received a \$150,000 18-month Planning Grant from the Packard Foundation for a pilot project called the Franklin McKinley Children Zone (FMCZ). The FMCZ project seeks to coordinate existing educational, health, social service, housing, neighborhood and economic development efforts by providing a comprehensive community development approach to cutting poverty for families in the Santee and Fair neighborhoods. The Franklin-McKinley School District Superintendent, Dr. John Porter, hosted an initial planning retreat on December 14, 2009 to roll out project phases, outcomes and confirming work teams. A project kick-off meeting is scheduled for February 26, 2010 at City Hall, from 9am to 11am. Additionally, the Departments of Housing, Transportation and Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services have been partnering with Franklin McKinley School District staff to share data, research and background information to support the Superintendent's efforts to seek additional funding and grant opportunities for the project. For more information on the Franklin McKinley Children Zone Project, contact Ernest Azevedo at (408) 535-8119.

***Department of Transportation (DOT) School Traffic Safety/Education Grant Update*** – DOT has applied for a grant in the amount of \$65,500 from the California Office of Traffic Safety to support the Franklin-McKinley Children's Zone (FMCZ) goals of safety and health. The grant would enable the Street Smarts Traffic Safety Education Program to focus on reducing pedestrian- and bicycle-related injuries and fatalities, specifically targeting low-income families

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and neighborhoods in this area, by conducting interactive pedestrian and bicycle safety assemblies; distributing and fitting an estimated 5,000 students with bicycle helmets; and conducting Bicycle "Roadeos." Funding of this grant proposal would help the FMCZ meet its goals to strengthen this community through enhanced bicycle and pedestrian safety and improved health for elementary and middle school students. For more information about this grant, contact Linda Crabill Byrne at (408) 975-3238.



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